

expense of the individual, a program approved by the State for training or qualification in the use of firearms; and

"(6) is not prohibited by Federal law from receiving a firearm.

"(d) The identification required by this subsection is photographic identification issued by the State in which the agency for which the individual was employed as a law enforcement officer is located.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such chapter is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 926B the following:

926C. Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers.

TITLE IV—SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELING

SEC. 401. SCHOOL COUNSELING DEMONSTRATION

(a) COUNSELING DEMONSTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants or enter into contracts under this section to establish or expand elementary and secondary school counseling programs.

(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give special consideration to applications describing programs that—

(A) demonstrate the greatest need for new or additional counseling services among the children in the schools served by the applicant;

(B) propose the most promising and innovative approaches for initiating or expanding school psychological counseling; and

(C) show the greatest potential for replication and dissemination.

(3) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall ensure an equitable geographic distribution among the regions of the United States and among urban, suburban and rural areas.

(4) DURATION.—A grant under this section shall be awarded for a period not to exceed three years.

(5) MAXIMUM GRANT.—A grant under this section shall not exceed \$400,000 for any fiscal year.

(b) APPLICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational agency desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each application for a grant under this section shall—

(A) describe the school population to be targeted by the program, the particular personal, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of such population, and the current school psychological counseling resources available for meeting such needs;

(B) describe the activities, services, and training to be provided by the program and the specific approaches to be used to meet the needs described in subparagraph (A);

(C) describe the methods to be used to evaluate the outcomes and effectiveness of the program;

(D) describe the collaborative efforts to be undertaken with institutions of higher education, businesses, labor organizations, community groups, social service agencies, and other public or private entities to enhance the program and promote school-linked services integration;

(E) describe collaborative efforts with institutions of higher education which specifically seek to enhance or improve graduate

programs specializing in the preparation of school psychologists;

(F) document that the applicant has the personnel qualified to develop, implement, and administer the program;

(G) describe how any diverse cultural populations, if applicable, would be served through the program;

(H) assure that the funds made available under this part for any fiscal year will be used to supplement and, to the extent practicable, increase the level of funds that would otherwise be available from non-Federal sources for the program described in the application, and in no case supplant such funds from non-Federal sources; and

(I) assure that the applicant will appoint an advisory board composed of parents, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, other pupil services personnel, teachers, school administrators, and community leaders to advise the local educational agency on the design and implementation of the program.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Grant funds this section shall be used to initiate or expand school psychological counseling programs that comply with the requirements in paragraph (2).

(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Each program assisted under this section shall—

(A) be comprehensive in addressing the personal, social, and emotional well being of all students;

(B) use a developmental, preventive approach to psychological counseling;

(C) increase the range, availability, quantity, and quality of psychological counseling services in the schools of the local educational agency;

(D) expand psychological counseling services only through qualified school psychologists;

(E) use innovative approaches to increase children's understanding of peer and family relationships, work and self, decision-making, academic and career planning, or to improve social functioning;

(F) provide psychological counseling services that are well-balanced among classroom group and small group counseling, individual counseling, and consultation with parents, teachers, administrators, and other pupil services personnel;

(G) include inservice training for school psychologists;

(H) involve parents of participating students in the design, implementation, and evaluation of psychological counseling program;

(I) involve collaborative efforts with institutions of higher education, businesses, labor organizations, community groups, social service agencies, or other public or private entities to enhance the program and promote school-linked services integration; and

(J) evaluate annually the effectiveness and outcomes of the psychological counseling services and activities assisted under this section.

(3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall issue a report evaluating the programs assisted pursuant to each grant under this subsection at the end of each grant period in accordance with section 1, but in no case later than January 30, 2004.

(4) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary shall make the programs assisted under this section available for dissemination, either through the National Diffusion Network or other appropriate means.

(5) LIMIT ON ADMINISTRATION.—Not more than five percent of the amounts made avail-

able under this section in any fiscal year shall be used for administrative costs to carry out this section.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) the term "school psychologist" means an individual who—

(A) possesses a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours in school psychology from an institution of higher education and has completed 1,200 clock hours in a supervised school psychology internship, of which 600 hours shall be in the school setting;

(B) possesses State licensure or certification in the State in which the individual works; or

(C) in the absence of such State licensure or certification, possesses national certification by the National School Psychology Certification Board;

(2) the terms "elementary school", "local educational agency", and "secondary school" have the same meanings given such terms in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801); and

(3) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education.

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor Senator FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4975, designating the post office and courthouse located at 2 Federal Square in Newark, New Jersey, as the Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office and Courthouse.

I can think of few individuals who have done so much for New Jersey to earn such an honor.

Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG is the personification of the American Dream. He was born to poor, hard-working immigrants in Paterson, New Jersey. It did not say Senator on his birth certificate. He had to work for everything he got.

FRANK LAUTENBERG enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served proudly in Europe during World War II. And thanks to the G.I. Bill, he received an education and used it to build a company from scratch.

That company, ADP, is now the largest payroll company in the world, and employs 33,000 people.

FRANK LAUTENBERG unselfishly used his success to help others. He has been one of the United States Senate's most tireless advocates for improving the health of all our families. The list of his accomplishments is both distinguished and long.

He has been one of the most strident advocates in taking on the tobacco companies to help our children. He was the leader in outlawing smoking on commercial flights.

He authored the nation's first Right to Know environmental legislation.

He established 21 as the national legal drinking age, reducing drunk driving deaths.

He helped to write Superfund, and the Clean Air and Safe Drinking Water Acts . . . And so much more.

It is impossible to find any piece of major legislation that improves public health that does not have FRANK LAUTENBERG's fingerprints on it.

And as the capstone of his career, as the ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, he co-authored the Balanced Budget Agreement of 1997 that has helped produce the first balanced budget in a generation, and perpetuates an unprecedented era of prosperity.

On a personal note, FRANK LAUTENBERG has always been there for me when I needed him, as a friend and a leader of the New Jersey delegation.

That is why I am honored to be there for FRANK LAUTENBERG. I hope everyone will join me in thanking him for his public service and granting this honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF GARDEN CITY
PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT RES-
CUE SQUAD

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding work by the Garden City Park Fire Department Rescue Squad on its golden anniversary.

Over the past fifty years, the Garden City Park Fire Department Rescue Squad responded to more than 30,000 emergency calls. This all-volunteer staff, which spends countless hours training to improve their skills, have made a significant difference in the lives of countless Long Islanders.

Come rain, sun, snow, or hail, these talented men and women brave the elements applying their skills and saving lives. It is often a job that does not get the recognition it deserves because many people take their service for granted. But make no mistake, these men and women are often the difference between life and death. Always the first on the scene of an accident, they apply their skills in a professional manner and do an outstanding job treating accident victims.

I, along with those treated by these dedicated men and women, applaud your dedication and service. Residents across Long Island owe you our gratitude and thanks.

ESSENTIAL AND CRITICAL HOS-
PITAL PRESERVATION ACT OF
2000

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Essential and Critical Hospital Preservation Act of 2000.

This bill improves previous legislation I have introduced in the 106th Congress by targeting relief to similar regions of the country like Northeastern Pennsylvania. Hospitals in these regions have a disproportionate number of el-

derly patients and have, therefore, been more greatly affected by the drastic cuts made in Medicare from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Furthermore, in these regions, the formula for Medicare as applied to those hospitals returns them an insufficient payment to meet their basic costs.

This bill is designed to assist economically distressed hospitals in regions where the combination of managed care, Medicare, and commercial payments changes have threatened to destroy the entire health care delivery infrastructure. It applies only to hospitals which have more than 40 percent of its patients on Medicare and receive the rural reimbursement rate despite being located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Mr. Speaker, the hospitals in my region of Pennsylvania are in deep distress. Many of them are in severe economic difficulty. My proposal would give hospitals in regions of the country like Northeastern Pennsylvania a minimum of a 5-year, 10-percent increase in Medicare payments while they work through the development of long-range economic recovery programs. It also requires the hospitals to devise a coordinated economic recovery program with the assistance of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Mr. Speaker, in a time when the future of Medicare is under strict scrutiny, we must today continue to provide the basic essential care under the Medicare program that are intended some 35 years ago. I urge all Members of Congress to review this critical legislation in the remainder of the 106th Congress and work to enact it into law.

HONORING MELVIN PAGE

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, in some ways Melvin Page and his colleagues in honor and arms may be the bravest Americans. They fought a long and difficult war against a brutal and ferocious enemy. But—unlike the brave Americans who fought all our other wars—Melvin Page and his fellow Vietnam veterans had to fight a war that not all Americans supported. Even if Melvin Page and his comrades were “the bravest of the brave”—and they were—the civilian leadership that got us into Vietnam badly failed the men and women it sent there. Those leaders never gave our brave soldiers the unconditional backing and the clear goals needed to win. But, despite all those impediments, Melvin Page and the others who fought in that conflict can always hold their heads proudly and high because of the extreme sacrifices they made in defense of freedom.

That's why I was especially honored to take part in Melvin Page Day in Harriman, TN, in the Third District on Saturday, September 9, 2000. When you look at the story of Melvin Page's brave service, it's hard to imagine anyone who could more deserve the honors he received from his fellow citizens. Melvin served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1969 when the Vietnam War was at its height.

He showed his true courage and suffered enormously during a battle in which he and 43 other men were ambushed by over 1,000 North Vietnamese Army soldiers. In an attempt to save as many of his comrades as possible, Sgt. Page called in napalm air strikes on his own position. He was hit three times by rifle shots, struck by a grenade and was grievously burned. He was one of the very few people in his command to survive the attack. Rescuers arrived just in time to save his life; and in fact, Melvin Page was so badly injured that the recovery team thought that he had died and placed him in a body bag. It was only when his hand moved that the rescuers realized that he was alive.

He had to undergo numerous operations and extensive rehabilitation to recover from the severe burns and other injuries he suffered. After Melvin Page left the Army, he became a letter carrier with the U.S. Postal Service back home in Harriman, where he has worked faithfully for 30 years.

Melvin Page's heroism and sacrifice has been recognized by the numerous medals and awards he has received, including the Bronze Star with V Device, three Purple Hearts, Two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, U.S. Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachute Jump Badge, Ranger Tab and Expert Marksman badge for pistol, rifle, and machine gun.

But, as impressive as this list is, it cannot begin to convey the heroism and sacrifice that marked Melvin Page's Army service. Mr. Page, as you complete 33 years of loyal and dedicated services to the United States in war and peace, please accept the congratulations, best wishes and heartfelt thanks of a grateful nation.

OCHSNER FOUNDATION HOSPITAL

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 25, the Ochsner Foundation Hospital will open a spectacular new addition. This \$46 million facility will provide 140 square feet of space over three floors. The first floor will include a world-class emergency and trauma center; the second floor will be home to 10 new operating rooms with the most advanced equipment; and the third floor will include 32 new intensive care unit patient rooms. By placing these improved facilities in new construction, operations of the existing facility are not threatened.

These improvements will improve the quality of care of patients at Ochsner. They also will provide a better learning environment for the more than 200 medical residents that study each year at Ochsner.

The Ochsner Foundation Hospital, at its present location since 1954, is accredited with commendation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, an achievement which places the hospital above 87% of all hospitals in the U.S. The hospital admits over 18,000 patients each year for a